

Gentlemen:

Concerning RM-10352, I am in full support of this petition. Development of new information about propagation on all frequencies is important so that they may be more fully utilized, and the development and expansion of weak signal technologies may later have commercial and defense uses.

As a former staffer of the ARRL, I sat in on Membership Services Committee meetings where possible filing of a petition of this type was discussed. The sense of the committee was that it was possible to achieve this through voluntary band plans. I stated to the committee at the time that voluntary band plans were generally unworkable, and that the only way to eliminate the problem would be to have mandatory band plans. As evidenced by the filing of this petition, it can be seen that voluntary band plans have not worked, and in fact have been generally ignored.

In the same manner that weak signal protection was afforded to operators on both 144 MHz and 50MHz, it would seem reasonable that the same protection could be afforded to the 1.8MHz. band.

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